

1. This Office Action is responsive to Examiner's initiated telephone interview, dated 3/19/2008, regarding election/restriction, informing the Applicant that restriction to one of the following invention is required under 35 USC 121:

Group I. Claims 7-20, 39-47, 48-60 are drawn to switching messages by processing of address header for routing, per se wherein the packet having header including source and destination address, matching and identifying entries in another data structure, classified in class 370, subclass 392.

Group II. Claims 1-6 and 61-70 are drawn to network path and control of data admission, content memory, and to identify a set of fields matching to received packets, classified as class 370, subclass 229/230

Group III. Claims 21-38 are drawn to switching arrangement, rule sets including source and destination address pair, classified in class 370, subclass 386.

2. Applicant elected Group I (claims 7-20 and 48-60). Claims 1-6, 21-38 and 61-70 are non-elected without traverse. Claims 38-47 are directed to non-statutory subject matter. **Accordingly, claim 1-6, 21-38, 39-47 and 61-70 have been cancelled without traverse.**

3. As noted in the **Interview Summary**, claims 33 and 39 (and subsequent dependent claims), claiming 'data structure', are directed to 'non-statutory' subject

matter and will be rejected under 35 USC § 101, if claimed in a future divisional application.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 7-20, 48-60 allowed over prior art of record.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Although claims 7, 11 and 48 are drafted as separate independent claims differing in definitions, nonetheless, they appear to be related to same subject matter of "forming a key from indexes, searching a primary table for an entry matching the key, accessing a list of associated bin pointers, identifying bin containing a number of sets of transport level field, if a match is found", (claims 7, 11 and 48), the closest prior art of record, Craig et al. (US 2003/053448 and Shand et al. (US 6,147,976), taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose the above underlined subject matter.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to AFSAR M. QURESHI whose telephone number is (571)272-3178. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Field Lynn can be reached on (571) 272 2092. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Afsar M Qureshi/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2616

3/20/2008